



Maine's Ryan White Part B HIV/AIDS Oral Health Assistance Program (OHAP) Policy

Background:

The Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act was created in 1990, by the US Congress, in response to the unmet medical needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. The Ryan White Program reaches people with the greatest need, and with the least access to necessary medical care. The federal funds address many areas of health including primary medical care, case management, dental care, and other support services. Part B of the Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act provides funding to every state to enable HIV care, a portion of which funds Maine's HIV/AIDS Oral Health Assistance Program.

In the State of Maine, the Oral Health Assistance Program provides eligible Mainers access to dental care. Assistance is facilitated through an HIV Medical Case Management agency, and can assist with preventive and restorative dental care. An HIV Medical Case Management agency may refund a dental provider for services rendered, or may help cover the costs of dental insurance.

Maine OHAP Policy Overview:

1. The OHAP offers dental access assistance to eligible Mainers living with HIV/AIDS.
2. There are two (2) eligibility requirements for dental assistance, including enrollment with HIV Medical Case Management.
3. The OHAP may pay for HIV/AIDS-related oral health care and necessary restorative care, and/or some costs of dental insurance programs.
4. To receive assistance through the OHAP, a client must be an active client of a Ryan White Part B HIV Medical Case Management agency, and fulfill all related client responsibilities.

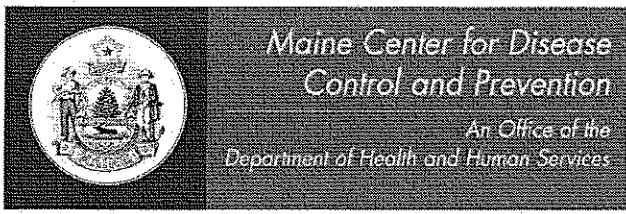
1 All About the OHAP:

What is Maine's Oral Health Assistance Program? What does it do?

- All Mainers with HIV should see a dentist for routine preventative care every six months.
- The Oral Health Assistance Program (OHAP) will help with access to preventative and restorative dental care.
- The OHAP works through Ryan White Part B funded HIV Medical Case Management agencies.
- Clients can work with their Case Manager to access assistance through this program.
- The OHAP is designated as a 'payer of last resort'.

The HIV/AIDS Oral Health Assistance Program recommends that all clients work with their care team to ensure comprehensive HIV care.

- A care team may include:
 - Primary Care Doctor and/or
 - HIV Care Specialist
 - HIV Medical Case Manager
 - Dental Provider
 - Family/Partner
 - Other Support Service Providers



John E. Baldacci, Governor

Brenda M. Harvey, Commissioner

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2 OHAP Eligibility:

Can I use the OHAP? What are the criteria?

- Eligibility for the program is based on two (2) requirements:
 - (1) Active client at a Ryan White Part B HIV Medical Case Management agency.
If you live in Maine and have HIV, you are eligible.
 - (2) All related Paperwork is complete, including:
 - Annual Assessment
 - Quarterly Care Plan
 - Signed Release of Information
- Each Ryan White Part B HIV Medical Case Management agency has written policy that describes access to their OHAP assistance.

3 OHAP Assists in Many Ways:

What will I get from the OHAP?

- If you have HIV, you should see a dentist every six months.
- The OHAP can help you access the dentist.
- The OHAP:
 - Has a list of providers
 - Has good prices negotiated
 - Can help you with the costs
 - Can help you get to your appointment
 - Can help coordinate comprehensive medical care to keep you well.
- If you have dental insurance, the OHAP can still help. Ask your case manager for more information.

4 Getting Assistance is Easy:

How do I access the OHAP? What else will I need to do?

- All you need to do is meet with your Ryan White Part B HIV Medical Case Manager.
- Your Case Manager will:
 - Gather information about your dental needs
 - Make a plan with you to address these needs
 - Give you names of local dentists, and help you with the referral
 - Help you get to your appointment
 - Help you pay for your care
 - Remind you when it is time to go back to the dentist.
- You will be expected to:
 - Complete all needed paperwork including:
 - Annual Assessment
 - Quarterly Care Plan
 - Release of Information
 - Income verification
 - Review your Case Management agency's Client Assistance Fund Policy
 - Go to appointments that are made for you

For more information about the OHAP ask your Case Manager, or call 287-5539